REMARKS

Claims 1-10 and 18-24 remain pending in this application with claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, 18, 19, 21 and 22 being amended and claims 11-17 being cancelled by this response.

Rejection of Claims 3, 4, 5, 7-9, 11, 13-16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph

Claims 3, 4, 5, 7-9, 11, 13-16, 18, 19, 21 and 22 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. These claims have been amended in accordance with the comments of the Examiner. In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-3 under 35 USC 102(b)

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Joseph. Claim 17 has been indicated as allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 11-17 and thus claim 1 is also allowable. Claims 11-17 have been cancelled. Claims 2 and 3 are dependent on claim 1 and thus are also allowable. In view of the amendments to claim 1, the cancellation of claims 11-17 and the dependence of claims 2 and 3 on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-13 and 18-24 under 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 1-13 and 18-24 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walsh in view of Joseph. Claim 17 has been indicated as allowable. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claims 11-17 and thus claim 1 is also allowable. Claims 11-17 have been cancelled. Claims 2-13 and 18-24 are dependent on claim 1 and thus are also allowable. In view of the amendments to claim 1, the cancellation of claims 11-17 and the dependence of claims 2-13 and 18-24 on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that

this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-3

Claims 1-3 are rejected on grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting. Claim 1 has been amended to include the features of claims 11-17. These amendments to claim 1 clarify the present claimed invention and thus distinguish this invention from the claims of copending patent application no. 10/680,401. In view of the amendments to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn. As claims 2 and 3 are dependent on claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner consider necessary or desirable any formal changes anywhere in the specification, claims and/or drawings, then it is respectfully asked that such changes be made by Examiner's amendment, if the Examiner feels this would facilitate passage of the case to issuance.

Alternatively, should the Examiner have any questions, comments, or feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance and issuance, he is cordially invited to contact Mr. Michael Kroll, Esq. at 171 Stillwell Lane, Syosset, New York 11791, telephone number (516) 367-7777, so that the present application can receive an early notice of allowance. The address and telephone number for Michael I. Kroll stated above is as listed on the original Power of Attorney.

Please charge any fee due and not covered by an enclosed check to Deposit Account No. 500716.

Respectfully submitted,

David M. Slovak et al.

By _____

Michael T. Kroll
Reg. No. 26,755
Attorney for Applicant

171 Stillwell Lane
Syosset, New York 11791
Tel. No. (516) 367-7777
Fax No. (516) 692-2787

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